WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method allowing a user to access document content using a logic device comprising:

allowing a user to connect to, search, and fully review, browse and select contents of documents residing at a remote document server on a first cost basis;

detecting a request from a user to perform an action on a user-selected portion of one or more documents;

prior to completing said request, gathering user information, document identification, and selection range information to allow calculating a charge to perform the requested action on a second cost basis;

receiving user authorization for said charge;

receiving a payment validation; and

completing the requested action.

2.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said user-selected portion allows a fine granularity selection down to, for text documents, individual words.

3.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said request is a standard command used in other applications or in the operating system and wherein operation of said command is interrupted to calculate a charge and get authorization.

4.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said request is a print command.

5.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said request is a copy command.

6.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said request is an execute command.

7.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said request is a play command.

8.   The method according to claim 1 wherein a user is allowed to perform a full-text search of said database and where documents are opened for browsing to portions containing search terms and search terms are highlighted.

9.   The method according to claim 1 wherein documents in said database comprise books, magazines, and newspapers.

10.   The method according to claim 1 wherein documents in said database comprise recordings.

11. The method according to claim 1 wherein documents in said database comprise executable files.

12. The method according to claim 1 wherein document data is downloaded in a secured unrecoverable state and access logic is necessary to view document data.

13. The method according to claim 1 wherein said charge is based in part on particular portions of one or more documents selected by a user.

14. The method according to claim 1 wherein said charge is based in part on the action requested.

15. The method according to claim 1 wherein said charge is based in part on a network address from which said user accesses said database.

16. The method according to claim 15 wherein said network address indicates a geographic location of said user.

17. The method according to claim 1 wherein receiving user authorization further comprises:
presenting the calculated cost to the user; and
receiving an indication that the user wishes to proceed.

18. The method according to claim 1 wherein receiving user authorization further comprises:
checking a user's default options and providing authorization according to said default options.

19. The method according to claim 1 further comprising:
determining whether a user wants multiple copies of a document; and
calculating a charge for said multiple copies of said document.

20. The method according to claim 1 wherein said multiple copies may include a certificate allowing authorized reproduction of a number of copies.

21. The method according to claim 1 wherein a user may select an anthology from multiple documents.

22. The method according to claim 1 wherein said document is encoded in a format with extensions allowing for identification of costs for individual items and the document and identifying the payee to receive credit for payment for downloading the item.

23. The method according to claim 1 wherein said document is viewed by a standard viewing application with viewing requiring an access plugin.

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24.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said document is encoded as an HTML document.

25.   The method according to claim 1 wherein said document is encoded as a PDF document.

26.   The method according to claim 1 wherein a user must be connected to a security server in order to view a document.

5   27.   A method providing restricted access to a document comprising:

detecting presence of secured content in a document;

providing a document identification to a security handler;

receiving a security key from said security handler;

applying said security key to provide viewing access to said secured content;

10   upon a request for an action to said secured content, interrupting said action to obtain a charge authorization;

verifying said charge authorization; and

allowing said action on said secured content.

28.   The method according to claim 27 wherein said action is a print action.

15   29.   The method according to claim 27 wherein said action is a copy action.

30.   The method according to claim 27 wherein said action is an execute action.

31.   The method according to claim 27 wherein said action is a play action.

32.   The method according to claim 27 wherein said action may specify a user-selected portion of said content to a fine granularity.

20   33.   The method according to claim 27 wherein said action is invoked by a standard command.

34.   A method providing restricted access to a document comprising:

serving a secured document content that requires a client-side access logic to view;

transmitting a security key to said client-side access to view said document;

receiving a charge authorization request for an action on said secured document content;

25   verifying a payment transaction for said action on said content; and

if said payment transaction verification is successful, providing a security authorization to perform said action.

35.   A method allowing retail sale of documents having multiple owners and fairly compensating individual owners comprising:

> encoding a multi-owned document into an electronic format, said format including tags identifying ownership of various portions of a document;

> allowing a user to select portions of said document and request a paid action;

> determining compensation for owners based on a user selection of a document and calculating a charge for said user;

> performing the requested action; and

> registering information allowing different owners to be appropriately compensated.

36.   The method according to claim 35 wherein said user is unaware that different portions of said document may have different ownership.

37.   The method according to claim 35 wherein said user selection is performed using a standard command interface shared with other applications and an operating system.

38.   The method according to claim 35 wherein said document is encoded in the PDF format.

39.   A method allowing a computer user to select and copy portions of documents including an automatic citation comprising:

> allowing a user to review and browse the contents of a document and to select portions of said document of interest:

> accepting a command from a user to copy or download a portion of a document;

> fetching said portion of said document along with citation information for said document; and

> performing the requested action.

40.   The method according to claim 39 wherein said command is a standard command used by other applications or the operating system and wherein the standard operation of said command is interrupted to allow for including citation information.

41.   The method according to claim 39 wherein said document is stored in a tagged layout format that includes information regarding the printout page of the document and other citation information.

42.   The method according to claim 39 wherein said document is stored in a PDF format.

43.   The method according to claim 39 wherein said document is stored in an HTML format with additional tags added for citation information.

44. The method according to claim 39 further comprising:

determining a users preferred citation format.

45. A method allowing a computer user to retrieve additional information regarding a selected object in an encoded document format in a viewing window comprising:

accepting input from the user activating an information tools menu listing a plurality of information functions;

accepting a selection from the menu;

performing an indicated function on said object.

46. The method according to claim 45 further comprising:

presenting results from said function to said user.

47. The method according to claim 45 wherein said information functions comprise:

a translation function.

48. The method according to claim 45 wherein said information functions comprise:

a definition function.

49. The method according to claim 45 wherein said information functions comprise:

a locate function allowing a user to display a map of a selected place name.

50. The method according to claim 45 wherein said information functions comprise:

a locate function allowing a user to display contact information a selected proper name.

51. The method according to claim 50 wherein said proper name can include a proper name of a person, business, or institution.

52. A method for implementing an on-line information access system, said method comprising:

providing an Internet webpage accessible to at least one user, via a computer system, for on-line interactive communications between said user and said Internet webpage;

offering, on said Internet webpage, options allowing said user to search for and select information content;

detecting a request from said user to perform an action on document content;

calculating a cost for said action on said content;

issuing a security key allowing said user to perform said action on said content.

53. The method as set forth in claim 52 further comprising

displaying to said user, via said computer system, an cost for performing said action on said content.

54.   The method as set forth in claim 52 further comprising

receiving permission from said user, via said computer system, to charge a cost for performing said action on said content.

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